

In The Claims

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5 and 9 as follows:

1. (First Amended) A toy, comprising:

an elongated central member having first and second ends and a longitudinal axis

a sliding collar capturing said central member and adapted to slide freely along said central member

a plurality of resilient rib elements each having first and second ends, wherein said first end of each resilient rib element is fixed to said central member and wherein said second end of each resilient rib element is fixed to said sliding collar, wherein each said resilient rib element urges said sliding collar away from said first end of each resilient rib element, and wherein each said resilient rib element is adapted to flex radially outwardly with respect to said longitudinal axis of said elongated central member,

a handle fastened to said elongated central member wherein said handle includes a surface which forms a stop element for limiting the sliding movement of said sliding collar.

3. (First Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein said resilient rib elements are comprised of polyester film [mylar].

5. (First Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein said elongated member includes an inner chamber wherein said inner chamber includes a plurality of rattling elements.

9. (First Amended) The toy of claim 1, wherein each said rib element is generally planar [planer].

Please add new claim 11 as follows:

8 ~~11.~~ (New) A toy, comprising:

an elongated central member having first and second ends and a longitudinal axis

a sliding collar capturing said central member and adapted to slide freely along said central member

a4 a plurality of resilient rib elements each having first and second ends, wherein said first end of each resilient rib element is fixed to said central member and wherein said second end of each resilient rib element is fixed to said sliding collar, wherein each said resilient rib element urges said sliding collar away from said first end of each resilient rib element, and wherein each said resilient rib element is adapted to flex radially outwardly with respect to said longitudinal axis of said elongated central member,

wherein each said resilient rib element includes a creased mid-portion.

REMARKS

Claim 2 has been cancelled, and claims 1, 3, 5 and 9 have been amended. New claim 11 has been added. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-11 remain under prosecution in this application.

Mylar®

The Examiner has correctly pointed out that Mylar® is a trade name and was not so treated in the application as filed. Amendments have been made to correct the use of Mylar® in this application and to properly designate it as a registered trademark.

Claim 1 has been amended to include "a handle fastened to said elongated central member wherein said handle includes a surface which forms a stop element for